

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 4271

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PINT, MOPS, ET, SU
SUBJECT: EPLF ANNOUNCES MILITARY SUCCESSES

1. ERITREAN PEOPLES LIBERATION FRONT (EPLF) ANNOUNCED IN KHARTOUM SEPTEMBER 13 THAT EPLF HAS "ESCALATED RAIDS" AGAINST ETHIOPIAN ARMY IN ASMARA, DIGSA, SAGANEITI, ADI CAIEH AND SENAFI. ACCORDING SUNA, HEAVY FIGHTING HAS TAKEN PLACE IN DIGSA AND SAFANEITI WHERE 50 ETHIOPIAN SOLDIERS WERE KILLED, 87 INJURED AND 25 CAPTURED. SIX ETHIOPIAN PERSONNEL CARRIERS WERE DESTROYED. FURTHER, EPLF GUERILLAS HAVE "HEAVILY BOMBARDED" DIGSA KILLING 100 ETHIOPIANS AND DESTROYING FIVE MORE PERSONNEL CARRIERS. TWO TANKS WERE DESTROYED BY GUERILLAS ON ADI CAIEH - SENAFI ROAD WHERE HEAVY CASUALTIES WERE INFLICTED ON ETHIOPIAN TROOPS. ONE TANK AND SIX PERSONNEL CARRIERS WERE DESTROYED IN AN AMBUSH BETWEEN ASMARA AND MANDEFERA (ADI UGRI) WHICH ALSO "INJURED 100 ETHIOPIAN SOLDIERS."

2. COMMENT: THESE PLACES ARE ALONG ASMARA-ADIGRAT ROAD. COMMUNIQUE REFLECTS GUERILLA TACTICS SUCH AS SEPARATE SMALL ACTIONS OVER LARGE AREA. CLAIMS ARE CONSISTENT WITH OTHER REPORTS OF ERITREAN SUCCESS AGAINST ETHIOPIAN TROOPS. BOGOSIAN

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Message Attributes

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